UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT LAUDERDALE DIVISION CASE NO. 0:25-cv-60499

Plaintiff,

VS.

C4G JEWELERS, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company,

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff ANDREE CAMPBELL, by and through undersigned counsel, sues Defendant C4G JEWELERS, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, and alleges as follows:

- 1. This is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief, attorney's fees, costs, and litigation expenses for unlawful disability discrimination in violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12181-12189 ("ADA"), as amended, and 28 C.F.R. Part 36.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this case based on federal question jurisdiction, 28 U.S.C. §1331, and the provisions of the ADA. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§2201 and 2202.
- 3. Venue is proper in this Court as all actions complained of herein and injuries and damages suffered occurred in the Southern District of Florida.
- 4. Plaintiff ANDREE CAMPBELL is a resident of Broward County, Florida, is sui juris, and is disabled as defined by the ADA and ADA Amendments Act of 2008, 42 U.S.C. §12101 ("ADAAA").
 - 5. Plaintiff is, and at all relevant times, has been blind and visually disabled in that

Plaintiff suffers from retinopathy, which is a permanent eye and medical condition that substantially and significantly impairs her vision and limits her ability to see. Plaintiff thus is substantially limited in performing one or more major life activities, including, but not limited to, seeing, accurately visualizing her world, and adequately traversing obstacles. As such, she is a member of a protected class under the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12102(1)-(2), the regulations implementing the ADA set forth at 28 CFR §\$36.101, *et seq.*, and 42 U.S.C. §3602(h). Plaintiff further is an advocate of the rights of similarly situated disabled persons and is a "tester" for the purposes of asserting her civil rights and monitoring, ensuring, and determining whether places of public accommodation and/or their respective and associated websites are in compliance with the ADA and any other applicable disability laws, regulations, and ordinances.

- 6. Based on a 2010 U.S. Census Bureau report, approximately 8.1 million people in the United States are visually impaired, including 2.0 million who are blind.
- appropriate and available auxiliary aids, screen reader software, and/or other technology and assistance. Screen reader software translates the visual internet into an auditory equivalent. At a rapid pace, the software reads the content of a webpage to the user. "The screen reading software uses auditory cues to allow a visually impaired user to effectively use websites. For example, when using the visual internet, a seeing user learns that a link may be 'clicked,' which will bring her to another webpage, through visual cues, such as a change in the color of the text (often text is turned from black to blue). When the sighted user's cursor hovers over the link, it changes from an arrow symbol to a hand. The screen reading software uses auditory -- rather than visual -- cues to relay this same information. When a sight impaired individual reaches a link that may be 'clicked on,' the software reads the link to the user, and after reading the text of the link says the word 'clickable.'...Through a series of auditory cues read aloud by the screen reader, the visually

impaired user can navigate a website by listening and responding with his keyboard." *Andrews v. Blick Art Materials, LLC*, 286 F.Supp.3d 365, 374 (E.D.N.Y.2017).

- 8. Defendant is a Florida Limited Liability Company authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Florida. Defendant owns, operates, and/or controls 2 U.S.-based stores offering a wide range of high-quality custom jewelry, the store Plaintiff intended to patronize in the near future (and as early as March and/or early April 2025), which is located at 7580 Northwest 186th Street, Suite Number 103, Hialeah, FL 33015.
- 9. Plaintiff's blindness limits Plaintiff in the performance of major life activities, including sight, and Plaintiff requires assistive technologies, auxiliary aids, and services for effective communication, including communication in connection with her use of a computer.
- 10. Plaintiff frequently accesses the internet. Because Plaintiff is blind, to effectively communicate and comprehend information available on the internet and thereby access and comprehend websites, Plaintiff uses commercially available screen reader software to interface with the various websites.
- 11. At all times material hereto, Defendant was and still is an organization that owns, operates, and/or controls 2 U.S. jewelry stores under the name "C4G Jewelers". The "C4G Jewelers" stores are open to the public. As the owner, operator, and/or controller of these stores, Defendant is defined as a place of "public accommodation" within the meaning of the ADA per 42 U.S.C §12181 and 28 C.F.R. §36.104.)
- 12. Because Defendant is a store open to the public, the Defendant's physical stores are a place of public accommodation subject to the requirements of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12182, §12181(7), and its implementing regulations, 28 C.F.R. Part 36.
- 13. Defendant also owns, controls, maintains, and/or operates an adjunct website, https://www.c4gjewelers.com/ (the "Website"). The website provides the public with information

about the location, hours, and contact details of the Defendant's stores. Additionally, the website allows users to explore a wide range of gold jewelry products, including handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, available in 10K, 14K, and 18K gold. Customers can make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, with options to add products to their cart and proceed to checkout. For those seeking personalized jewelry pieces, the website offers custom Cuban Link orders, allowing users to specify size, weight, and design preferences. To assist with financing, the website provides information on available options, enabling customers to buy now and pay later with 0% interest. The website also features a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise, including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products. Customers can browse a variety of items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more, all emblazoned with the C4G Jewelers logo. These products are available for purchase through the same secure platform as jewelry, with the option to add them to the shopping cart and check out with ease. The "About" page offers insights into the company's history, as well as information about the founder, and the dedicated team behind C4G Jewelers. Customers can view contact information for local stores, including phone number and email address, facilitating direct communication for inquiries or support. The website provides access to privacy policies and other legal information, ensuring transparency and protection of customers' personal data. To stay updated on exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates, users can sign up for the email newsletter, receiving the latest news and promotions directly in their inbox.

- 14. The Website also services Defendant's physical stores by providing information about locations, available products, services, tips and advice, editorials, sales campaigns, events, and other information that Defendant is interested in communicating to its customers.
- 15. Because the Website allows the public the ability to secure information about the location of Defendant's physical stores, explore a wide range of gold jewelry items, including

handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, add products to their cart and proceed to checkout, order custom Cuban Link jewelry pieces by specifying size, weight, and design preferences, take advantage of financing options to buy now and pay later with 0% interest, browse a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products, purchase items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more with the C4G Jewelers logo, view the company's history and information about the founder and team on the "About" page, access contact information for local stores including phone numbers and email addresses, view privacy policies and other legal information for transparency and protection of personal data, and sign up for the email newsletter to receive exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates, the Website has a nexus to, and is an extension of and gateway to, the goods, services, privileges, and advantages of Defendant's physical stores, which are places of public accommodation under the ADA. As an extension of and service, privilege, and advantage provided by a place of public accommodation as defined under the ADA, the Website is an extension of the services, privileges, and advantages made available to the general public by Defendant at and through its brick-and-mortar locations and businesses. Furthermore, the Website is a necessary service and privilege of Defendant's physical stores in that, it acts as a critical point of sale for the stores, it enables users of the Website to make purchases of Defendant's merchandise that is also available for purchase in, from, and through its physical stores.

16. Because the public can find information about the location, hours, and contact details of the Defendant's stores, explore a wide range of gold jewelry items, including handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, add products to their cart and proceed to checkout, order custom Cuban Link jewelry pieces by specifying size, weight, and design preferences, take

advantage of financing options to buy now and pay later with 0% interest, browse a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products, purchase items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more with the C4G Jewelers logo, view the company's history and information about the founder and team on the "About" page, access contact information for local stores including phone numbers and email addresses, view privacy policies and other legal information for transparency and protection of personal data, and sign up for the email newsletter to receive exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates, the Website is an extension of, and gateway to the physical store, which are place of public accommodation pursuant to the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12181(7)(E). As such, the Website is a necessary service, privilege, and advantage of Defendant's brick-and-mortar stores that must comply with all requirements of the ADA, must not discriminate against individuals with visual disabilities, and must not deny those individuals the same full and equal access to and enjoyment of the goods, services, privileges, and advantages afforded the non-visually disabled public both online and in the physical stores.

- 17. At all times material hereto, Defendant was and still is an organization owning, operating, and/or controlling the Website. Since the Website is open to the public through the internet, by this nexus the Website is an intangible service, privilege, and advantage of Defendant's brick-and-mortar stores that must comply with all requirements of the ADA, must not discriminate against individuals with visual disabilities, and must not deny those individuals the same full and equal access to and enjoyment of the goods, services, privileges, and advantages as are afforded the non-visually disabled public both online and in the physical stores. As such, Defendant has subjected itself and the Website to the requirements of the ADA.
- 18. Plaintiff is and/or has been a customer who is interested in patronizing, and intends to patronize in the near future once the Website's access barriers are removed or remedied (and as

early as March and/or early April 2025), Defendant's physical stores located at 7580 Northwest 186th Street, Suite Number 103, Hialeah, FL 33015, and to search for brick-and-mortar stores, explore a wide range of gold jewelry items, including handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, add products to cart and proceed to checkout, take advantage of financing options to buy now and pay later with 0% interest, browse a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products, purchase items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more with the C4G Jewelers logo, view the company's history and information about the founder and team on the "About" page, access contact information for local stores including phone numbers and email addresses, view privacy policies and other legal information for transparency and protection of personal data, and sign up for the email newsletter to receive exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates. In the alternative, Plaintiff intends to monitor the Website in the near future (and as early as March and/or early April 2025) as a tester to ascertain whether it has been updated to interact properly with screen reader software.

19. The opportunity to explore a wide range of gold jewelry items, including handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, available in 10K, 14K, and 18K gold, make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, add products to their cart and proceed to checkout, order custom Cuban Link jewelry pieces by specifying size, weight, and design preferences, take advantage of financing options to buy now and pay later with 0% interest, browse a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products, purchase items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more with the C4G Jewelers logo, view the company's history and information about the founder and team on the "About" page, access contact information for local

stores including phone numbers and email addresses, view privacy policies and other legal information for transparency and protection of personal data, and sign up for the email newsletter to receive exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates, and more from Plaintiff's home are important and necessary accommodations for Plaintiff because traveling outside of Plaintiff's home as a blind individual is often a difficult, hazardous, frightening, frustrating, and confusing experience. Defendant has not provided its business information in any other digital format that is accessible for use by blind and visually disabled individuals using screen reader software.

- 20. Like many consumers, Plaintiff accesses a number of websites at a time to help plan her store visits and to compare jewelry options, prices, services, sales, and promotions. Plaintiff may look at several dozen websites to compare features, discounts, services, promotions, and prices.
- 21. Beginning in January 2025, Plaintiff attempted on several occasions to use the Website to browse jewelry options and online offers to familiarize herself with the in-stock items, services offered, pricing, delivery options, and store information, with the intention of making a purchase through the Website or at the physical store. Plaintiff also attempted to access and utilize the Website in her capacity as a tester to determine whether it was accessible to blind and visually disabled persons such as herself who use screen reader software to access and navigate company websites.
- 22. The Plaintiff wanted to find a durable, well-crafted gold chain that could be worn daily or on special occasions. She wanted a chain that would be simple, elegant, and versatile, so it could be used with different types of pendants or worn on its own. She wanted to ensure that the chain was made from high-quality gold and had a sturdy design. On or about January 27, 2025, she used a JAWS screen reader to browse for a suitable option and visited the C4G Jewelers website. However, upon accessing the site, she encountered multiple accessibility issues that made

navigation difficult. The primary issue was that after adding the product to the cart, the focus did not shift to the newly opened mini cart dialog, and there was no notification indicating that the product had been successfully added to the cart. As a result, she was unable to complete the checkout process on the C4G Jewelers website.

- 23. Plaintiff utilizes available screen reader software that allows individuals who are blind and visually disabled to communicate with websites. However, Defendant's Website contains access barriers that prevent free and full use by blind and visually disabled individuals using keyboards and available screen reader software. These barriers are pervasive and include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Different images of the same product on the Product detail page had similar alternative text. The similar description impeded Plaintiff from learning more detailed information about the selected product;
 - b. Heading hierarchy on the home page was not properly defined, and there were missing heading levels. Legally blind users tend to find specific content using headings based on the logical organization of the page;
 - c. Interactive elements (filter buttons, checkboxes) could not be focused with the Tab key. The website did not provide helpful instructions on how to access the interactive element using arrow keys. Plaintiff did not know about the interactive element from the home page;
 - d. Sub-menu elements with drop-down menu could not be accessed from the keyboard. Plaintiff tried to use "tab" or "arrow" keys to no avail. The website had functionality that was dependent on the specific devices such as a mouse, and was not available to the legally blind users;
 - e. Form expirations and time-outs were present on the checkout page, but no mechanism was provided to control session timeouts. As a result, the plaintiff was unaware that the timer had started and was unable to complete the checkout process in time;
 - f. Plaintiff attempted to add the selected product to cart and as a result, the confirmation dialog box opened, but the focus did not move from trigger button to dialog items. Plaintiff was confused when she was unable to navigate through the content with the keyboard and proceed to Checkout in order to make a purchase;
 - g. Plaintiff was forced to repeatedly tab through elements with the same destination: the link text of products conveyed similar information and led to the same destinations as interactive images above the links;

- h. The Checkout page was reloaded after Plaintiff checked the checkbox to accept the Terms and Conditions, and the keyboard focus moved to the top of the page. As a result, Plaintiff was confused by the change of context;
- i. Plaintiff made an attempt to complete Checkout procedure but encountered ambiguous labels for Billing information form field: "edit blank". The lack of clear and unambiguous labels prevented Plaintiff from completing the transaction;
- j. After adding the selected item to the Cart, it did not announce its value information. Thus, Plaintiff did not know whether her selection was successful and how many items were placed in the Cart;
- k. The Navigation menu contained elements with drop-down menu, and they did not announce their state "collapsed" or "expanded". As a result, Plaintiff had difficulty in navigating the menu and could not determine in which part of the sub-menu the keyboard focus was located;
- l. Plaintiff was not aware of the search suggestions after search term was entered into the Search bar. The status update, such as a brief text message about search suggestions, was not provided even though the content of the page was updated and search suggestions were displayed. Without appropriate status message legally blind users do not know that search suggestions appeared on the screen;
- m. Plaintiff pressed the Search button but the status update, such as a brief text message about the completion or status of the search, was not provided even though the content of the page was updated and search results were displayed. Without appropriate status message legally blind users do not know that search results appeared on the screen;
- 24. Accordingly, Defendant's Website was incompatible with Plaintiff's screen reading software and keyboard.
- 25. The fact that Plaintiff could not communicate with or within the Website left Plaintiff feeling excluded, frustrated, and humiliated, and gave Plaintiff a sense of isolation and segregation, as Plaintiff is unable to participate in the same online experience, with the same access to merchandise, sales, services, discounts, as provided at the Website and in the physical stores as the non-visually disabled public.
- 26. Plaintiff desires and intends, in the near future once the Website's access barriers are removed or remedied, to patronize Defendant's physical store located at 7580 Northwest 186th Street, Suite Number 103, Hialeah, FL 33015, and to use the Website, but Plaintiff is presently

unable to do so as Plaintiff is unable to effectively communicate with Defendant due to Plaintiff's blindness and the Website's access barriers. Alternatively, as a tester using screen reader software, Plaintiff is unable to effectively access, navigate, and communicate with Defendant through the Website due to Plaintiff's blindness and the Website's access barriers. Thus, Plaintiff and others who are blind and with visual disabilities will suffer continuous and ongoing harm from Defendant's intentional acts, omissions, policies, and practices as set forth herein unless properly enjoined by this Court.

- 27. Because of the nexus between Defendant's physical stores and the Website, and the fact that the Website clearly provides support for and is connected to Defendant's physical stores for its operation and use, the Website is an intangible service, privilege, and advantage of Defendant's brick-and-mortar stores that must comply with all requirements of the ADA, must not discriminate against individuals with disabilities, and must not deny those individuals the same full and equal access to and enjoyment of the goods, services, privileges, and advantages as afforded the non-visually disabled public both online and in the physical stores, which are places of public accommodation subject to the requirements of the ADA.
- 28. On information and belief, Defendant has not initiated a Web Accessibility Policy to ensure full and equal use of the Website by individuals with disabilities.
- 29. On information and belief, Defendant has not instituted a Web Accessibility Committee to ensure full and equal use of Website by individuals with disabilities.
- 30. On information and belief, Defendant has not designated an employee as a Web Accessibility Coordinator to ensure full and equal use of the Website by individuals with disabilities.
- 31. On information and belief, Defendant has not instituted a Web Accessibility User Accessibility Testing Group to ensure full and equal use of the Website by individuals with

disabilities.

- 32. On information and belief, Defendant has not instituted a User Accessibility Testing Group to ensure full and equal use of the Website by individuals with disabilities
 - 33. On information and belief, Defendant has not instituted a Bug Fix Priority Policy.
- 34. On information and belief, Defendant has not instituted an Automated Web Accessibility Testing program.
- 35. Defendant has not created and instituted a useful and effective Specialized Customer Assistance line or service or email contact mode for customer assistance for the visually disabled.
- 36. Defendant has not created and instituted on the Website a useful and effective page for individuals with disabilities, nor displayed a proper link and information hotline, nor created a proper information portal explaining when and how Defendant will have the Website, applications, and digital assets accessible to the visually disabled and/or blind communities.
- 37. The Website does not meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines ("WCAG")2.2 Level AA or higher versions of web accessibility.
- 38. Defendant has not disclosed to the public any intended audits, changes, or lawsuits to correct the inaccessibility of the Website to visually disabled individuals who want the safety and privacy of booking Defendant's merchandise offered on the Website and in the physical stores from their homes.
- 39. Defendant thus has not provided full and equal access to, and enjoyment of, the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations provided by and through the Website and the physical stores in contravention of the ADA.
- 40. Public accommodations under the ADA must ensure that their places of public accommodation provide effective communication for all members of the general public, including

individuals with visual disabilities such as Plaintiff.

- 41. The broad mandate of the ADA is to provide equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities to participate in and benefit from all aspects of American civic and economic life. That mandate extends to internet e-commerce websites such as the Website at issue in the instant action.
- 42. Defendant is, and at all relevant times has been, aware of the barriers to effective communication within the Website which prevent individuals with visual disabilities from the means to comprehend information presented therein.
- 43. Defendant is, and at all relevant times has been, aware of the need to provide full and equal access to all visitors to the Website.
- 44. The barriers that exist on the Website result in discriminatory and unequal treatment of individuals with visual disabilities, including Plaintiff.
- 45. Plaintiff has no plain, adequate, or complete remedy at law to redress the wrongs alleged hereinabove, and this suit for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief is her only means to secure adequate and complete redress from Defendant's unlawful and discriminatory practices in connection with the Website's access and operation.
- 46. Notice to Defendant is not required because of Defendant's failure to cure the violations.
- 47. Enforcement of Plaintiff's rights under the ADA is right and just pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§2201 and 2202.
- 48. Plaintiff has retained the undersigned attorneys to represent her in this case and has agreed to pay them a reasonable fee for their services.

COUNT I – VIOLATION OF THE ADA

- 49. Plaintiff re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 48 as if set forth fully herein.
- 50. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12181(7), Defendant is a public accommodation under the

ADA and thus is subject to the ADA.

- 51. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12181(7), the Website is covered under the ADA because it provides the general public with the ability to find information about the location, hours, and contact details of the Defendant's store, explore a wide range of gold jewelry items, including handcrafted Cuban Link chains, rings, bracelets, earrings, and pendants, available in 10K, 14K, and 18K gold, make purchases directly through the website's secure online shopping platform, add products to their cart and proceed to checkout, order custom Cuban Link jewelry pieces by specifying size, weight, and design preferences, take advantage of financing options to buy now and pay later with 0% interest, browse a dedicated section for C4G Jewelers' exclusive merchandise including branded clothing, accessories, and lifestyle products, purchase items such as hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and more with the C4G Jewelers logo, view the company's history and information about the founder and team on the "About" page, access contact information for local stores including phone numbers and email addresses, view privacy policies and other legal information for transparency and protection of personal data, and sign up for the email newsletter to receive exclusive offers, benefits, invitations, and updates. The Website thus is an extension of, gateway to, and intangible service, privilege, and advantage of Defendant's physical stores. Further, the Website serves to augment Defendant's physical stores by providing the public information about the stores and by educating the public as to Defendant's available merchandise sold through the Website and in, from, and through the physical stores.
- 52. Under Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12182(b)(1)(A)(II), it is unlawful discrimination to deny individuals with disabilities or a class of individuals with disabilities an opportunity to participate in or benefit from the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodation, which is equal to the opportunities afforded to other individuals.
 - 53. Specifically, under Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12182(b)(2)(A)(II), unlawful

discrimination includes, among other things, "a failure to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations to individuals with disabilities, unless the entity can demonstrate that making such modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations."

- 54. In addition, under Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12182(b)(2)(A)(III), unlawful discrimination includes, among other things, "a failure to take such steps, as may be necessary to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can demonstrate that taking such steps would fundamentally alter the nature of the good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation being offered or would result in an undue burden."
- 55. Defendant's Website must comply with the ADA, but it does not as specifically alleged hereinabove and below.
- 56. Because of the inaccessibility of the Website, individuals with visual disabilities are denied full and equal access to, and enjoyment of, the goods, information, and services that Defendant has made available to the public on the Website and in the physical stores in violation of 42 U.S.C. §12101, *et seq.*, and as prohibited by 42 U.S.C. §12182, *et seq.*
- 57. More violations may be present on other pages of the Website, which can and will be determined and proven through the discovery process in this case.
- 58. Further, the Website does not offer or include the universal symbol for the disabled that would permit disabled individuals to access the Website's accessibility information and accessibility facts.
 - 59. There are readily available, well-established guidelines on the internet for making

websites accessible to the blind and visually disabled. These guidelines have been followed by other large business entities in making their websites accessible. Examples of such guidelines include, but are not limited to, labeling accurately form fields, ensuring the correct focus order, and ensuring that interactive elements are focusable via the Tab key. Incorporating such basic components to make the Website accessible would neither fundamentally alter the nature of Defendant's business nor would it result in an undue burden to Defendant.

- 60. Defendant has violated the ADA -- and continues to violate the ADA -- by denying access to the Website by individuals such as Plaintiff with visual disabilities who require the assistance of screen reader software to comprehend and access internet websites. Defendant has failed to take any prompt and equitable steps to remedy its discriminatory conduct. These violations within the Website are ongoing.
- 61. The ADA requires that public accommodations and places of public accommodation ensure that communication is effective.
- 62. According to 28 C.F.R. §36.303(b)(1), auxiliary aids and services include "voice, text, and video-based telecommunications products and systems". Indeed, 28 C.F.R. §36.303(b)(2) specifically states that screen reader software is an effective method of making visually delivered material available to individuals who are blind or have low vision.
- 63. According to 28 C.F.R. §36.303(c), public accommodations must furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities: "In order to be effective, auxiliary aids and services must be provided in accessible formats, in a timely manner, and in such a way as to protect the privacy and independence of the individual with a disability," 28 C.F.R. §36.303(c)(1)(ii).
 - 64. Part 36 of Title 28 of the C.F.R. was designed and is implemented to effectuate

subtitle A of Title III of the ADA, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public accommodations, and requires places of public accommodation to be designed, constructed, and altered in compliance with the accessibility standards established by Part 36.

- 65. As alleged hereinabove, the Website has not been designed to interface with the widely and readily available technologies that can be used to ensure effective communication and thus violates the ADA.
- 66. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure to provide an ADA compliant Website, with a nexus to its brick-and-mortar stores, Plaintiff has suffered an injury in fact by being denied full and equal access to, enjoyment of, and communication with Defendant's Website and its physical stores.
- 67. Because of the inadequate development and administration of the Website, Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12133 and 28 C.F.R. §36.303, to remedy the ongoing disability discrimination.
- 68. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12188, this Court is vested with the authority to grant Plaintiff appropriate and necessary injunctive relief, including an order to:
- a) Require Defendant to adopt and implement a web accessibility policy to make publicly available, and directly link from the homepage of the Website, a functional statement of the Defendant's policy to ensure persons with disabilities have full and equal access to and enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations of the physical stores through the Website.
- b) Require Defendant to take the necessary steps to make the Website readily accessible to and usable by blind and visually disabled users, and during that time period prior to the Website being made readily accessible, provide an alternative method for individuals with visual

disabilities to access the information available on the Website until such time that the requisite modifications are made, and

- c) Require Defendant to provide the appropriate auxiliary aids such that individuals with visual disabilities will be able to effectively communicate with the Website for purposes of viewing and locating Defendant's physical stores and becoming informed of and purchasing Defendant's merchandise, and during that time period prior to the Website being designed to permit individuals with visual disabilities to effectively communicate, to provide an alternative method for individuals with visual disabilities to effectively communicate for such goods and services made available to the general public through the Website and in the physical stores.
- 69. Plaintiff is entitled to recover her reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and expenses pursuant to the ADA. To that end, Plaintiff has been obligated to retain the undersigned counsel for the filing and prosecution of this action and has agreed to pay them a reasonable fee for their services.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests entry of judgment in her favor and against Defendant for the following relief:

- A. A declaration that Defendant's Website is in violation of the ADA;
- B. An Order requiring Defendant, by a date certain, to update the Website, and continue to monitor and update the Website on an ongoing basis, to remove barriers in order that individuals with visual disabilities can access, and continue to access, the Website and effectively communicate with the Website to the full extent required by Title III of the ADA;
- C. An Order requiring Defendant, by a date certain, to clearly display the universal

disabled logo within the Website, wherein the logo¹ would lead to a page which would state Defendant's accessibility information, facts, policies, and accommodations. Such a clear display of the disabled logo is to ensure that individuals who are disabled are aware of the availability of the accessible features of the Website;

- D. An Order requiring Defendant, by a date certain, to provide ongoing support for web accessibility by implementing a Website accessibility coordinator, a Website application accessibility policy, and providing for Website accessibility feedback to ensure compliance thereto;
- E. An Order directing Defendant, by a date certain, to evaluate its policies, practices and procedures toward persons with disabilities, for such reasonable time to allow Defendant to undertake and complete corrective procedures to its Website;
- F. An Order directing Defendant, by a date certain, to establish a policy of web accessibility and accessibility features for the Website to ensure effective communication for individuals who are visually disabled;
- G. An Order requiring, by a date certain, that any third-party vendors who participate on Defendant's Website to be fully accessible to the visually disabled;
- H. An Order directing Defendant, by a date certain and at least once yearly thereafter, to provide mandatory web accessibility training to all employees who write or develop programs or code for, or who publish final content to, the Website on how to conform all web content and services with ADA accessibility requirements and applicable accessibility guidelines;



- I. An Order directing Defendant, by a date certain and at least once every three months thereafter, to conduct automated accessibility tests of the Website to identify any instances where the Website is no longer in conformance with the accessibility requirements of the ADA and any applicable accessibility guidelines, and further directing Defendant to send a copy of the twelve (12) quarterly reports to Plaintiff's counsel for review;
- J. An Order directing Defendant, by a date certain, to make publicly available and directly link from the Website homepage, a statement of Defendant's Accessibility Policy to ensure the persons with disabilities have full and equal enjoyment of the Website and shall accompany the public policy statement with an accessible means of submitting accessibility questions and problems;
- K. An award to Plaintiff of her reasonable attorney's fees, costs and expenses; and
- L. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

DATED: March 14, 2025.

ALEKSANDRA KRAVETS, ESQ. P.A.

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By: <u>/s/ Aleksandra Kravets, Esq.</u>
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